



Education Interim Meeting

Public Education COVID-19 Response and Recovery – School Openings



State Charter School Board Support of Charter Schools

- Based on feedback, determined most pressing needs for students
 - June 2020: made available the option of digital learning to every brick and mortar charter school through the 2021-22 school year
 - Charter schools who can show strong data indicating students have excelled in their online program will have the option of converting this program into their existing charter agreement
 - August 2020: allowed flexibility in the enrollment caps for the statewide online charter schools who requested it
 - For the 2020-2021 school year
- Provided technical support
 - Regular directors meetings
 - Answer questions



Charter School Re-Opening

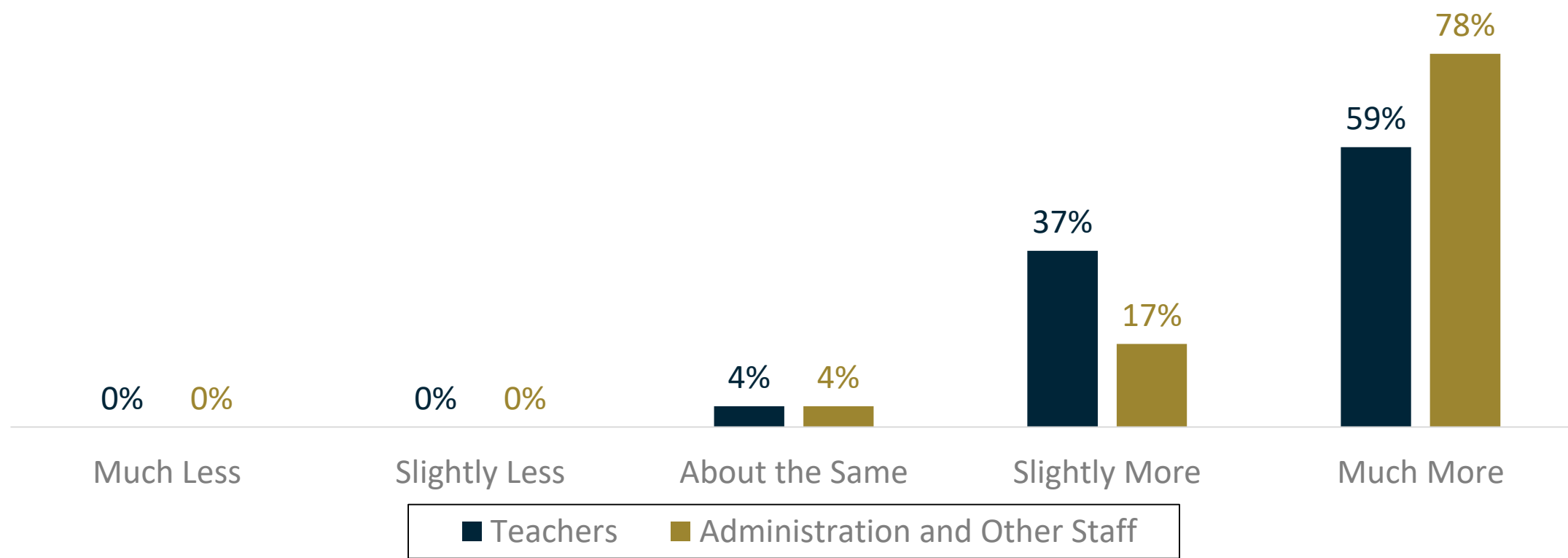
- Meet the guidance and requirements for all public schools
- Survey community
- Are flexible to meet needs of community
 - Some charter schools have seen increased demand
- Are smaller, less staff to also run the different options for students



Staff Workload

Survey Results from Charter Schools, August 2020

Workload Compared to Other Years





Teacher Workload

Survey Results from Charter Schools, August 2020

- Manage both on-site and online instruction
- Oversee classroom sanitation protocols
- Help to enforce social distancing and mask protocols
- *In order to adapt to COVID, teachers must rethink all procedures, lessons, and learn best practices for being nimble for in-person, hybrid, and returning to online if needed. My staff is amazing and leaning in to lift the load together. But there is no way around it being more work.*
- *Teachers are now being asked to teach in PPE, with social distancing which severely impedes their ability to teach in the typical ways they have been trained to.*
- *No matter the scenario we find ourselves in, there is going to be more expected of everyone. We chose the scenario with the best options for parents, students, and the least amount of work for teachers. The reality is that with all that is going on, more is going to be required from everyone including teachers.*



Administrative and Staff Workload

Survey Results from Charter Schools, August 2020

- Changing directives and information
 - Student, parent, and staff anxiety
 - Extra protocols and reporting
 - Developing and implementing plans that meet needs and provide quality education
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- *We have already worked without a break night and day since March. The "to do" list continues to grow with no end in sight.*
 - *We have worked harder this summer than ever before, and it has been difficult to stay on top of all the changes and requests from the State. Lots of extra work.*



Biggest Challenges

Survey Results from Charter Schools, August 2020

- Enforcing the wearing of masks (most often mentioned challenge)
 - Ensuring physical distancing, especially with younger students
 - Changing regulations
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- *Mask wearing. So many opinions and perspectives vary. We are the ones trying to keep the peace between them all, as well as guarantee safety.*
 - *Wearing of masks and social distancing. The little students don't understand all of this and the teenagers are not going to be as willing to wear their masks nor social distance. Much of this will be due to the political nature of the situation and what the views are in the student's home.*



Successes and Strengths

Survey Results from Charter Schools, August 2020

- Listening to the community
- Providing options to parents
- Involving teachers
- *We have looked at all aspects and tried to make our school safe. The one key element that our families have appreciated is having different options. We have tried to look at all of our families on an individual basis.*
- *We are a small school and are able to offer classes with 16-17 students at a time in-person to maintain a 6-foot barrier between students. We have proven that it can be done, yet our teachers will have to work a lot harder, so it came at a cost.*
- *We formed something we call "The Strategy Room" back in early June and our staff have volunteered to join these weekly meetings to formulate our re-opening plans with us. They have expressed gratitude multiple times for having a voice throughout this process. And, they have contributed some really critical ideas to our plans.*



THANK YOU

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